

ticular investigations that might, from time to time, be required, but practical men of affairs, with the experience best suited to fit them for their executive duties. It is suggested that the consular service might supply the best type of agents desired, and that, for this reason, and also because of the incentive to merit which would thus be provided, appointments should be made preferably from among those consular officers who have demonstrated their special fitness and capacity.

It will, in my opinion, be found upon examination that while the measure proposed is a modest and more or less tentative one, involving comparatively slight expense, it promises important and far-reaching consequences in the judicious strengthening of our whole foreign service in the interest of trade, and the gradual development of capacities in it but imperfectly available as yet to make it fully adequate to the demands of our productive energy as a nation.

Agriculture in the United States has long been dependent for its prosperity upon the demand from abroad for its surplus products, and of late years our manufacturing industries have found that they were outstripping the capacity of even our enormous home market and are now looking more and more to foreign consumption for relief from accumulating stocks. According to an estimate of the Department of Commerce and Labor our exports of manufactures in the calendar year 1904 "will not only exceed the highest figures of any earlier year, but may probably pass the \$500,000,000 line, as against \$434,000,000 in the high-record year, the fiscal year 1900, \$151,000,000 in 1890, \$103,000,000 in 1880, \$68,000,000 in 1870, and \$40,000,000 in 1860."

The magnitude and steady growth of this export movement from our workshops and factories are such as to suggest the grave importance of providing it with all the official apparatus necessary to its full and free development.

It is generally admitted that in recent years the consular service, whatever may be its defects of system, has developed a commercial utility which has been of great practical value. It would be most regrettable, however, if this improvement, which has been brought about by the zeal and energy of individual consuls rather than by the efforts of the service as a whole, and also, to a large extent, by the special direction of the Department of State, should be accepted as fully satisfying even present requirements, not to speak of the prospective demands of a rapidly expanding commerce. For this reason I cordially commend to the consideration of the Congress the recommendations of the Acting Secretary of State, looking to the gradual systematizing and equipment of the whole foreign service, by simple and inexpensive means, as an auxiliary, responsive at all points to what may reasonably be expected of it by the great industrial and commercial interests which are so deeply concerned in enlarging their share of the world's trade.

In view of the interest and importance of the subject to the public, and especially to the business community, I also suggest that authority be given for the printing of a special edition of 5,000 copies of the Acting Secretary's letter, together with the appended reports from diplomatic and consular officers, of which 2,000 copies shall be for distribution by the Department of State.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, January 18, 1905.

SOLICITOR FOR POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following request from the Senate:

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
January 19, 1905.

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to request the House of Representatives to return to the Senate the bill (S. 4162) providing for the appointment of a solicitor for the Post-Office Department and abolishing the office of Assistant Attorney-General for the Post-Office Department.

Attest:

CHARLES G. BENNETT,
Secretary.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the request will be granted.

There was no objection.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to—

Mr. GAINES of Tennessee, until further notice, on account of sickness.

Mr. MORRELL, indefinitely, on account of illness.

Mr. COOPER of Wisconsin, indefinitely, on account of important business.

ADJOURNMENT.

Mr. HULL. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; and accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 25 minutes p. m.) the House adjourned until to-morrow at 12 o'clock m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATION.

Under clause 2 of Rule XXIV, the following executive communication was taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

A letter from the Secretary of the Navy, submitting a report as to expenditures on the vessels *Connecticut*, *Louisiana*, *Tennessee*, *Washington*, *Dubuque*, and *Paducah*—to the Committee on Naval Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

Under clause 2 of Rule XIII, bills and resolutions of the following titles were severally reported from committees, delivered to the Clerk, and referred to the several Calendars therein named, as follows:

Mr. DAVEY of Louisiana, from the Committee on Interstate

and Foreign Commerce, to which was referred the bill of the House (H. R. 17333) to authorize the construction of a bridge across Red River at Shreveport, La., reported the same without amendment, accompanied by a report (No. 3697); which said bill and report were referred to the House Calendar.

He also, from the same committee, to which was referred the bill of the House (H. R. 17481) authorizing the Alexandria, Bayou Maçon and Greenville Railway Company to construct bridges over Red River, Little River, Ouachita River, and Bayou Louis, in Louisiana, reported the same with amendment, accompanied by a report (No. 3698); which said bill and report were referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. MARSHALL, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, to which was referred the bill of the House (H. R. 17994) to ratify and amend an agreement with the Indians residing on the Shoshone or Wind River Indian Reservation, in the State of Wyoming, and to make appropriations for carrying the same into effect, reported the same without amendment, accompanied by a report (No. 3700); which said bill and report were referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. DAVIS of Minnesota, from the Committee on the District of Columbia, to which was referred the bill of the House (H. R. 7022) to amend section 4 of an act entitled "An act relating to the Metropolitan police of the District of Columbia," approved February 28, 1901, reported the same with amendment, accompanied by a report (No. 3702); which said bill and report were referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. LACEY, from the Committee on the Public Lands, to which was referred the bill of the House (H. R. 15986) creating the Colorado Cliff Dwellings National Park, reported the same with amendment, accompanied by a report (No. 3703); which said bill and report were referred to the House Calendar.

He also, from the same committee, to which was referred the bill of the Senate (S. 5603) for the preservation of historic and prehistoric ruins, monuments, archaeological objects, and other antiquities, and to prevent their counterfeiting, reported the same with amendment, accompanied by a report (No. 3704); which said bill and report were referred to the House Calendar.

He also, from the same committee, to which was referred the bill of the House (H. R. 7269) to set apart certain lands in the Territory of New Mexico as a public park, to be known as the Pajarito Cliff Dwellers' National Park, for the purpose of preserving the prehistoric caves and ruins and other works and relics therein, reported the same with amendment, accompanied by a report (No. 3705); which said bill and report were referred to the House Calendar.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

Under clause 2 of Rule XIII, private bills and resolutions of the following titles were severally reported from committees, delivered to the Clerk, and referred to the Committee of the Whole House, as follows:

Mr. LONGWORTH, from the Committee on Pensions, to which was referred the bill of the House (H. R. 4680) granting a pension to Jonas Ball, reported the same with amendment, accompanied by a report (No. 3647); which said bill and report were referred to the Private Calendar.

He also, from the same committee, to which was referred the bill of the House (H. R. 6663) granting a pension to Mahala Alexander, reported the same with amendment, accompanied by a report (No. 3648); which said bill and report were referred to the Private Calendar.

He also, from the same committee, to which was referred the bill of the House (H. R. 7609) granting an increase of pension to Mary A. Ryon, reported the same with amendment, accompanied by a report (No. 3649); which said bill and report were referred to the Private Calendar.

He also, from the same committee, to which was referred the bill of the House (H. R. 10691) granting an increase of pension to J. W. Hilyard, reported the same with amendment, accompanied by a report (No. 3650); which said bill and report were referred to the Private Calendar.

He also, from the same committee, to which was referred the bill of the House (H. R. 10950) granting an increase of pension to William Clark, reported the same with amendment, accompanied by a report (No. 3651); which said bill and report were referred to the Private Calendar.

Mr. McLAIN, from the Committee on Pensions, to which was referred the bill of the House (H. R. 14071) granting a pension to Cole B. Fugate, reported the same with amendment, accompanied by a report (No. 3652); which said bill and report were referred to the Private Calendar.